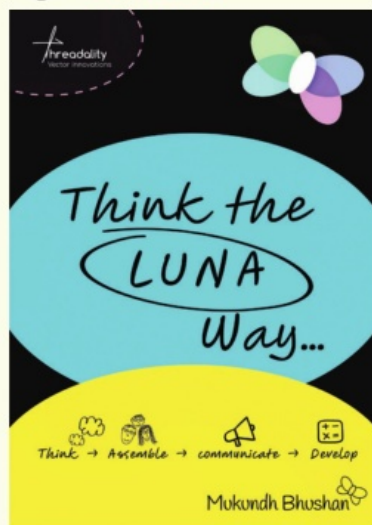


3 THINGS TO DO

01 Read on



Join in for the launch of 'Think the Luna Way' by Mukundh Bhushan and embark on a transformative journey that will empower you to turn your ideas into reality. The book emphasises the importance of

building a solid foundation for your ideas before diving into their actual creation. The book is filled with real-life lessons and practical advice drawn from Mukundh's personal experiences in starting and growing a successful tech company. **Where:** Atta Galatta, Indiranagar; **When:** July 28, 1:30 pm

02 Inspiring poems



Spend an insightful evening listening to Tarun Chakraborty's poetry at 'Tuesdays with the Bard @ Urban Solace.' Hailing from a small town in Jamshedpur that is deeply steeped in tradition and old-world expectations, Tarun's poems reflect the struggles that everyone experiences when they refuse to conform to social structures

and rigid mind-set constraints. Today, Tarun is a professional storyteller, helping corporate organisations craft inspiring and powerful brand stories. **Where:** Urban Solace, Ulsoor
When: July 30, 7:30 pm to 9 pm

03 Act on spot



Dive into the excitement of impromptu acting, turning unexpected topics into a captivating performance with an 'Improv Workshop.' Improvise, captivate, and act on the spot! Be a part of a stage where spontaneity meets creativity, challenging you to deliver impromptu acting brilliance in just two minutes. Hone your quick-thinking skills and unleash your creativity at a stage where every act is a surprise and every moment is unforgettable. **Where:** Small World, Koramangala; **When:** July 28 onwards

Hot & fresh: Indira Canteen is set to launch revamped menu

From bread & jam, buns to ragi mudde, chapati, beneficiaries can avail of premium-quality food from August 2

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Following numerous complaints, to improve the quality of food served in canteens, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) will be introducing a new menu at 142 of the 192 Indira Canteens across the city starting on August 2. The new contractors appointed by the BBMP will begin supplying food, with detailed instructions to be issued soon.

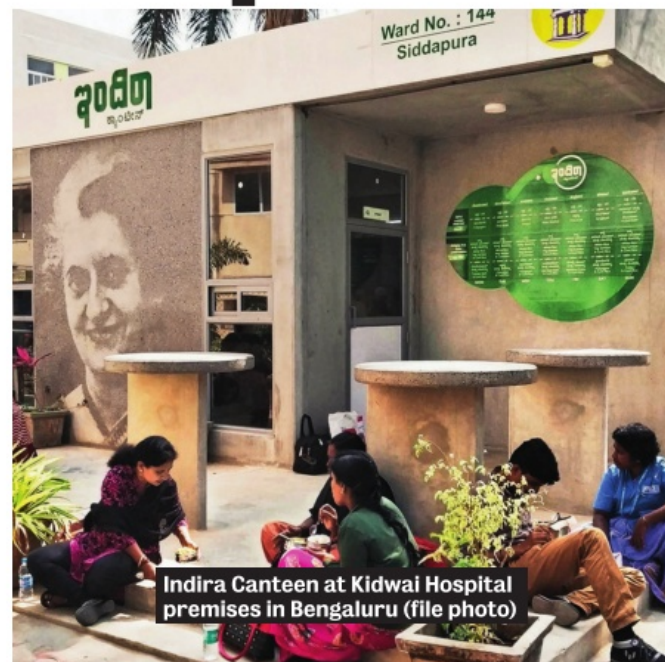
According to BBMP officials, the updated menu will offer a variety of options for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. For breakfast, customers can choose from three options: idli (three pieces) with sambar and chutney, bread with jam and coffee/tea, or Mangaluru buns with coffee/tea. Lunch and dinner will include rice bath with vegetable sambar, ragi mudde with saagu and chutney (on alternate days), or chapati with saagu and chutney (on alternate days). Additionally, BBMP has decided to retain anna (rice) with sambar, a staple from the previous menu, allowing customers the flexibility to choose between anna and the new ragi mudde

or chapati options. The Palike has recently finalised the tender process for the operation of the Indira Canteen, a crucial initiative providing affordable meals. Overall, canteens are operated across 225 wards, comprising 173 permanent facilities and 24 mobile units, all of which were included in the tender process.

Ensuring overall efficiency

Concerns have been raised regarding certain food providers allegedly reporting inflated beneficiary numbers compared to the actual meals served. An official said, "Earlier, to address these issues and ensure transparency, the implementation of artificial intelligence (AI) cameras was planned. These cameras were to monitor the canteens, verifying the correct number of beneficiaries who receive meals. Furthermore, dedicated software is in development to issue one-time passwords (OTPs) to the mobile phones of beneficiaries. This measure aims to authenticate the number of individuals being served meals, minimising discrepancies and ensuring efficient utilisation of resources."

The Indira Canteen Project, initiated by the previous Congress government, is designed



Indira Canteen at Kidwai Hospital premises in Bengaluru (file photo)

to provide affordable meals to the impoverished and laborers. However, delays in government approval have hindered its progress, despite the completion of the tender process. We are eagerly awaiting the green light from the government to kick-start this important initiative. The canteens provided meals to 1.07 lakh individuals and dinner to 2.25 lakh people in the fiscal year 2023-24.

Rise in subsidy

Interestingly, the subsidy allotted to contractors by BBMP has seen an increase. Under the new

tender, eligible food supply agencies will receive a subsidy of Rs 42 per person per day, covering all meals. This marks a significant rise from the previous subsidy of Rs 32 per person per day. Stressing food quality, the use of adulterated oil, artificial colours, and flavour enhancers has been strictly prohibited at the Indira Canteen. It's mandated to use premium-quality rice, wheat, and sunflower oil or an equivalent high-quality oil. The canteen must also ensure they serve hot idlis and that branded biscuits are sold at their maximum retail price.

KSRTC's bus fare hike plan faces flak

Despite a rise in revenue following the implementation of the Shakti scheme, citing that the corporation faces financial instability due to rising staff salaries and diesel costs, the Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC) administrative board has proposed a bus fare increase of 15 to 20 per cent, which will soon be reviewed by the chief minister for a final decision.

A KSRTC official said that the costs of spare parts, staff salaries, and other expenses have steadily increased, causing the corporations' debt to surpass Rs 4,000 crore over the past five years. "New buses have been added to meet passenger demand without a proportional revenue increase, prompting the need for a fare hike. The KSRTC board, in its July 12 meeting, proposed this increase, and similar proposals have been submitted by other corporations. The final decision now rests with Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, who is expected to review the proposal within the next 10-15 days. If not approved, the corporations will seek additional financial aid," the official said. KSRTC sources said that staff salaries have also risen by 20 per cent over the past four years, in addition to diesel prices. Additional expenses include higher spare parts



prices, toll charges, and a recent tax increase on diesel, costing the corporations an extra Rs 4-6 crore daily. With potential future wage increases adding Rs 300-500 crore annually, fare hikes are necessary for financial stability. "Furthermore, the compensation under the energy scheme has not been fully disbursed. The state was to pay Rs 5,866.97 crore for expenses incurred from June 2023 to June 2024, but only Rs 4,453.50 crore have been received," said a source.

However, there has been stiff opposition from commuters against the hike. Sheela Kumar, a regular bus commuter, said, "Raising bus fares will put an extra financial burden on many commuters who rely on public

'Hiking fares is not a solution for financial instability in transport sector'

transport for their daily needs. With the cost of living already high, it's unfair to make essential travel more expensive. Public transportation should be accessible to everyone, especially in a city where traffic congestion and parking issues make driving a challenge. We understand the need for financial stability in the transport sector, but hiking fares is not the solution. The government should explore alternative revenue sources or cost-saving measures before passing the cost onto passengers."

Shivamma D, a flower vendor, said, "Many of us use public buses to commute to work, and any increase in fare would have a significant impact on our monthly budget. The focus should be on maintaining and enhancing services rather than making them more expensive. Forcing passengers to pay more for bus rides won't solve the financial issues of the transport corporations. Instead, investing in better management and operational efficiency would be a more effective approach."

— BMB

Will 'Fix Pothole' finally fix Bengaluru's road woes?

BBMP launches new app to provide transparent pothole identification & repair

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With the previous mobile app 'Fix My Street' being of little or no use in reporting potholes, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has now launched a new mobile app, 'Fix Pothole.' This app will help residents identify and repair potholes on city roads transparently and efficiently.

Bengaluru's road network spans approximately 12,878 km, including 1,344.84 km of arterial and sub-arterial roads and 11,533.16 km of ward-level roads. Traditionally, these roads have housed underground cables, water supply and gas pipes. However, the installation of OFC cables and high-capacity cables by KPTCL has led to road surface deterioration and persistent potholes, a BBMP official said. "The 'Fix Pothole' app will use GPS to identify all roads within city limits, detect potential potholes, and record their dimensions. Each pothole will generate a separate work order, facilitating the repair process through the app. This technology aims to provide transparent pothole identification and repair, control costs, and ensure accountability. For the fiscal year 2024-25, Rs 33.75 crore has been allocated for 225 wards, with Rs 15 lakhs designated per ward. This innovative project harnesses technology for the transparent and timely repair of potholes while ensuring cost control."

BBMP officials said that additionally, a 'Road Pothole Monitoring' software has been introduced to manage and monitor the estimation process for occa-



City roads are riddled with potholes (file photo)

I truly hope this new initiative will make a tangible difference and lead towards the long-awaited improvement in our city's road conditions

—Mohammed Asim, city resident

sional and casual works, oversee staff responsible for pothole repairs, and provide public information about pothole repairs without human intervention. Users can upload photos of potholes using this software. "This app is available for download on Android phones in both Kannada and English, so one can select their preferred lan-

guage during setup. Once registered through an OTP verification, the user can proceed by clicking on the 'Road Repair' option. They can then choose the location of the pothole, upload its photo, provide a description of the issue, and click 'Submit' after reviewing their complaint. A complaint number will be generated, and the issue will be forwarded to the relevant authorities for resolution within a specified timeframe. The app also allows users to track the status of their complaints. Once logged in, you won't need to log in again to use the software," added a BBMP official.

Reacting to this, Mohammed Asim, a resident of Fraser Town, said, "The BBMP has repeatedly promised to address this issue, setting numerous deadlines to make our roads pothole-free. Unfortunately, these promises have

often gone unmet, and the problem has persisted, affecting our daily commutes and causing significant inconvenience. It seems every time there's a new deadline, the situation only worsens, with potholes reappearing faster than they can be repaired."

Despite the BBMP's efforts, the pothole issue remains a pressing concern, with many areas still in disrepair. "We've seen too many assurances and not enough action, leading to growing frustration among residents. Now, with the launch of the 'Fix Pothole' app, there's a renewed sense of hope that it might finally bring the accountability and speed we have been missing. While I remain cautiously optimistic, I truly hope this initiative will make a tangible difference and lead to the long-awaited improvement in our city's road conditions," Asim added.

PG murder suspect caught

The city police have arrested the prime suspect in the murder of 24-year-old Kriti Kumari, who was killed at a paying guest accommodation on July 23. The suspect, Abhishek, was apprehended in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh, where he had fled after committing the heinous crime.

Bengaluru Police Commissioner B Dayananda confirmed the arrest, stating that Abhishek is being brought to Bengaluru on transitive remand. When asked about the motive, the commissioner explained that a thorough investigation and interrogation are required before any details can be shared.

According to the police, Abhishek sneaked into the PG accommodation and killed Kriti. The emergence of the horrifying CCTV footage has raised concerns about the safety of women in Bengaluru, particularly in the IT sector.

—BMB

Parents shocked after teacher chops girl's locks

An ninth-grade student faced an unusual punishment from her teacher for not wearing her hair in twin braids. While it is common for school teachers to enforce dress codes and grooming standards, this incident raised questions about the appropriateness of such disciplinary measures and the potential impact on the student's well-being and self-esteem.

On Friday, when Amulya arrived at school with her hair unbraided, the teacher took it upon herself to cut the student's hair, believing it would serve as a lesson. The student's parents were understandably upset and lodged a complaint with the school authorities. The school has since apologised and resolved the matter.

The teacher defended her actions as a necessary discipline, but many, including the parents and local residents, have criticised her response as excessively harsh. They argue that such methods are inappropriate and damaging. As the issue snowballed into a controversy, Block Education Officer BN Marigowda visited the school, expressing regret and advising the teacher to exercise more care in her approach to discipline. He also apologised to the parents and urged them to avoid escalating the situation further. Similarly, the School Development and Monitoring Committee (SDMC) held a meeting to express their disapproval and stressed the need to concentrate on delivering quality education.

Sources said that the teacher involved is a guest lecturer who had previously worked at the school. The community has voiced significant concern about her actions, calling for the school to implement measures to prevent such occurrences in the future. Anand K, an educationist, said, "We have uniforms so that there is a uniform dress code to be followed. However, this incident is quite shocking. We need to understand that children are in a very tender stage of their development, and they need to be treated with care and understanding. Harsh disciplinary actions can have long-lasting negative effects on their emotional and psychological well-being. It's crucial for educators to adopt supportive and nurturing methods to guide students and foster a positive learning environment."

—BMB

Govt tightens reins on drinking near parks, schools

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If you happen to visit any road or park, there is a likelihood of seeing beer bottles thrown on the road. In fact, many roads, flyovers, and other public places have turned out to be open bars during the night, when the surveillance will be less. Now, the state government has issued a stern warning to people engaging in the illegal sale of liquor or drinking liquor in front of schools or parks.

Excise Minister RB Timmapur said, "Though there is a significant reduction in liquor licenses compared to other states, the persistence of illegal sales continues, and we are taking measures to curb outside drinking. Hence, to address the issue, the government is contemplating the implementation of a ban on liquor sales in specific areas and has directed law enforcement to take stringent measures against individuals violating the regulations. The government will not



'Empty beer bottles littering the streets has become a disturbing trend now'

tolerate illegal liquor sales, especially in schools and parks."

Concerns have been raised by parents and teachers regarding the sale of liquor in close proximity to schools. "While the government does not advocate for a complete prohibition on liquor sales, it aims to enforce strict regulations. We reiterate the government's intolerance

towards illegal liquor sales and commitment to penalising violators," he added.

Harsha Vardhan, a techie, said that empty beer bottles littering our streets have become a disturbing trend. It's become alarmingly common to find these discarded bottles in the early hours of the morning, a clear sign that many are resorting to drinking on the roads during the night. This isn't just a matter of unsightly litter; it poses significant dangers to our community, especially during the night when visibility is low. "Broken glass on the road can cause accidents, damage vehicles, and even injure pedestrians, including children who might be playing outside or walking to school. Drinking on the streets can lead to reckless behaviour and disturbances that affect the peacefulness of our neighborhood. We need stricter enforcement of local laws and a community effort to address this issue. Encouraging responsible drinking habits and ensuring that those who consume alcohol do so in designated areas can help mitigate these risks," he added.

No link between Palakkad gap and Bengaluru rains

Social media claims about specific feature affecting city's downpours are wrong; various factors influence weather

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There has been speculation on social media about a connection between the Palakkad Gap and rainfall in Bengaluru. Many videos claim that the Palakkad Gap influences Bengaluru's weather patterns, but private weather forecasters dispute this notion. According to a recent post on X by Namma Karnataka Weather, these claims are incorrect.

"Bengaluru experiences rainfall from April to December, spanning various phases such as Summer Pre-Monsoon Rains, Southwest Monsoon (SWM) Rains, Break Phase Rains, Late Monsoon Thunderstorms (TS), and Northeast Monsoon (NEM) Season Rains. None of these rain phases can be attributed to the Palakkad Gap. The Western Ghats, being tall, block rainbands from the western coast but allow some moisture to pass through. For rain to develop, sufficient moisture and atmospheric conditions, like CAPE (Convective Available Potential Energy). Bengaluru is situated at an equal distance from both the Bay of Bengal and the Arabian Sea, allowing moisture to move in from either direction. Rain phases in Bengaluru are driven by various factors: inland convergence during summer, strong westerlies during the SWM season, and easterly circulations during the NEM season.

Each phase of rain is influenced by specific meteorological conditions rather than the Palakkad Gap. Moisture is present across different atmospheric pressure levels, from lower to higher altitudes, and its movement is influenced by wind direction and atmospheric dynamics rather than a single geographic feature. Thus, the simple explanation that the Palakkad Gap affects Bengaluru's rainfall is not supported by meteorological evidence", the post explained.

Rivers in full spate

The rivers in the State are currently overflowing, with many of them surpassing their danger levels. The Cauvery River, which was almost dry last month, is now experiencing record inflows exceeding 1 lakh cusecs. The Krishna Raja Sagar (KRS) inflows increased to 1,11,599 cusecs on Saturday morning, resulting in the release of 1,13,506 cusecs into the river, causing flooding in many low-lying areas downstream. Similarly, the Krishna River is also experiencing a surge in water levels, with a record 3.11 lakh cusecs being released from the Narayanapura reservoir. Dr N Puvirasan, a scientist at India Meteorological Department, stated, "Many places in the State will receive heavy rainfall due to shear zone continuing to exist approximately along 18°N over the Indian region between 5.8 & 7.6 km above mean sea level, with a southward tilt as height increases. The offshore trough at mean sea level cur-



Strong winds cause trees to fall on vehicles on Queens Road on Saturday

Four hurt and vehicles damaged as tree branches fall

Four people were injured in separate incidents, and several vehicles were damaged as strong winds brought down trees in the city. A Gulmohar tree branch fell on Residency Road, landing on an auto-rickshaw. The driver, Divakar (42), and passenger, Stalin, suffered minor injuries and were treated at a private hospital. In another incident, a small branch

from a tree in Sunkenahalli Park near Gavipuram Extension fell onto a two-wheeler, causing an accident. The riders, Gagan (38) and his son Yuva (10), sustained minor injuries. A Peltophorum tree branch fell on a vehicle on 14th Main Road, Binny Mill Employees Colony, due to strong winds. Similarly, a tree branch fell on a vehicle on Hosahalli 2nd Cross Road, Telecom Layout.

rently extends from South Gujarat to the north Karnataka coast. There is strong wind convergence along Coastal Karnataka and neighbouring

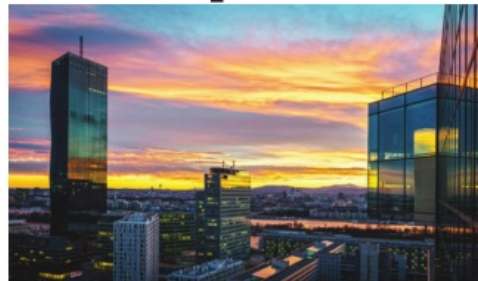
Western Ghats districts. The authorities are closely monitoring the situation and taking necessary measures to ensure the safety."

Skydeck project to take shape near Bengaluru South-West

After evaluating various locations, it now appears that the Skydeck project may be situated near Bengaluru South-West. During a meeting with Bengaluru City legislators on Saturday, Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar announced that a 250-metre skydeck is set to be constructed to enhance tourism. Both opposition party leaders and MLAs have supported this initiative. The final decision on this will be made in the upcoming cabinet meeting.

The project requires a 25-acre site, and while areas near Kommaghatta and Bangalore University were considered, concerns were raised about the potential impact on students and the use of valuable land. Consequently, opposition leader R Ashok and other MLAs have proposed placing the skydeck near Nice Road, where land is available from the Nice organisation. According to a Supreme Court directive, the government is set to reclaim 200 acres from Nice. Discussions are planned with the organisation regarding this site. Previous site searches encountered restrictions from the Air Force and Aviation Ministry, which barred construction within a 20 km radius.

Responding to media queries, DK Shivakumar explained, "We have thoroughly considered all factors. Placing the skydeck near Nice Road will



offer convenient access for tourists heading to Mysore and Kodagu. Additionally, the potential widening of Nice Road and the development of the peripheral Ring Road will enhance accessibility from various areas. We will further review these considerations in the cabinet meeting."

Double decker flyover

Shivakumar revealed plans for future double-decker flyovers alongside metro lines, similar to the one in Ragigudda. This approach aims to address high land acquisition costs by integrating road flyovers with metro projects, thereby saving both time and money. DK Shivakumar noted that the cost of such projects would be shared between

the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike and Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited.

Waste management

DKS said, "The authorities have decided to select four sites within a 15-20 km radius outside Bangalore for waste management purposes. If government land is not available, private land will be acquired under the guidelines set by the Centre. To address the issue of old vehicles causing traffic congestion, the police have been granted full authority to remove such vehicles from the roads and transport them to yards for auction."

Tunnel Road

Saturday's meeting involved a discussion about the development of an underground road. "The first phase will involve the construction of an 18.5 km long tunnel road from Esteem Mall to Silk Board. This proposal will be presented to the cabinet, and tenders will be invited. A route from east to west Bengaluru has been designed, and subsequent phases will involve further steps. Alongside the tunnel road, 17-18 locations have been identified, and a 100 km signal-free corridor flyover is currently being planned, with an estimated cost of around 12,000 crores," DKS added. — BMB

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Garbage strewn

KR Puram



The sidewalk near the Government School on the road to Venkateshwara High School in KR Puram is broken, filled with garbage, and has been neglected for days, creating a safety hazard.

Dengue risk

Seshadripuram



The filth near the CNG gas station on Seshadripuram 1st Main Road is causing major issues for residents. The situation has worsened with the recent rise in dengue cases.

Blocked road

Chandra Layout



The 10th Cross in Chandra Layout has been blocked and neglected for over 10 years. Despite numerous complaints, no action has been taken to resolve the issue.

Rising temperatures fuel dengue, chikungunya surge

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With maximum daily temperatures around 25°C and minimum temperatures around 22°C, conditions are ideal for dengue and chikungunya-spreading mosquitoes. Experts fear an increase in dengue cases if these temperatures persist, as these mosquitoes, sensitive to temperature changes, primarily bite during the day and can hatch eggs months later.

Karnataka has one of the highest dengue caseloads in India, with over 16,000 cases reported this year. Bengaluru alone accounts for 7,500 cases. This rise, starting in June, involves confirmed dengue cases verified through diagnostic tests. However, more than half of the cases

showing classic dengue symptoms are testing negative and are suspected to be chikungunya. Despite many cases not being tested for chikungunya, doctors observe typical symptoms such as joint pains, fever, rashes, vomiting, and headaches.

A state health department official stated, "This is typically the season when dengue cases surge each year, as it's the peak season. Chikungunya also tends to appear at the same time. Since both diseases are spread by Aedes Aegypti mosquitoes, cases peak simultaneously. Although there are more suspected cases of chikungunya this year, many aren't being tested. Only 54 confirmed chikungunya cases have been recorded so far this year," noting that cases are likely to rise further due to wet and damp areas providing perfect breeding grounds for mosquitoes, and the temperature dip creating an



ideal environment for them.

Temperature plays a vital role in the development and survival of Aedes mosquitoes. The optimal temperature range for their development is 25°C-30°C. Regardless of the rearing temperature of the larvae, the survival rate of adult mosquitoes is significantly higher at 20°C compared to other temperatures, according to a study published in PubMed in September 2023. Dengue symptoms include sudden high fever, severe headaches, pain

behind the eyes, joint and muscle pain, nausea, skin rashes with fever, and fatigue.

Minister for Health and Family Welfare Dinesh Gundu Rao has directed officials to closely monitor individuals infected with dengue for 14 days. He has also urged the BBMP and health department officials to implement all necessary preventive measures to control the spread of the vector-borne disease in the city. "Although dengue cases have shown a decline in some districts, Bengaluru alone accounts for 50 percent of the total cases in the state. Hence, I have directed the BBMP and Health Department officials in Bengaluru to pay more attention and bring dengue under control. The deputy director-level officers are being deployed to dengue hotspots in 10 districts. These officials will spend two days, starting

from July 29, in the hotspots to ensure the proper implementation of dengue control measures. A dengue hotspot is identified when more than two positive cases are reported in an area," the minister explained.

Regarding other viral diseases, the health minister confirmed that no cases of Nipah virus have been detected in Karnataka so far. However, due to its presence in the neighbouring state of Kerala, caution needs to be exercised in areas bordering the state. "We have issued an advisory to those traveling from the state to Kerala to be careful. Travel only if absolutely necessary," he advised. The minister also mentioned the recent detection of the Zika virus in the state, stating that while it is not as dangerous as Nipah, precautionary measures will be followed by the health department to ensure public safety.

BM Education

Advertorial Promotional Feature

CBSE's challenge: How to conduct two exams in a year?



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The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) is currently deliberating on the scheduling of two rounds of board examinations, as recommended by the new National Curriculum Framework (NCF). The options under consideration include conducting exams in January-February and March-April or holding the second set of exams in June alongside the supplementary or improvement exams. Another possibility being explored is the implementation of a semester system with biannual exams.

Officials have stated that consultations are ongoing, and no final decision has been made regarding the timing and format of the proposed twice-yearly board exams. The CBSE has informed the Union educa-

tion ministry that the current system requires more than 150 steps and a minimum of 310 days to conduct board exams for Classes 10 and 12, with at least 55 days needed to administer the two exams.

The challenge for the CBSE lies in determining when and how to replicate this extensive process for a second round of exams. Factors such as the academic calendar, competitive exam schedules, and geographical challenges posed by CBSE schools spread across the country and abroad make the semester system appear less feasible.

Additionally, conducting exams before February presents its difficulties due to harsh winters in some states.

"The process involves a minimum of 310 days, starting from filling the list of candidates, centre notifications, release of roll numbers, conduct of practicals, theory exams, result declaration, verification, and revaluation. At least 55 days are required to

conduct the two exams," the board has informed.

The new NCF, developed by a national steering committee appointed by the Union government and led by former ISRO chairman K Kasturirangan, aligns with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. It proposes a semester system for Classes 11 and 12 and the option for students to write board exams twice a year. Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan has emphasised that appearing for board exams twice a year will be optional and not mandatory for students.

Previous attempts at reforming board exams include the introduction of the Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation (CCE) for Class 10 in 2009, which was revoked in 2017, and the temporary splitting of board exams into two terms during the Covid-19 pandemic. The old format of year-end exams has since resumed this year.

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STORY BEHIND THE PHOTO

FROM BOOKS TO SCRAPS

Once considered invaluable and indispensable, these textbooks are now at paper value alone at a scrap dealer shop

The picture was clicked by reader
Rekha Cona Venkatram



If you have a picture and a story to share, send us the picture with your name and number at mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com

Wooden logs not cleared by BBMP amidst heavy rains

Forest department personnel are clearing huge logs from fallen trees, but smaller logs and garbage remain

Sridhar Vivan
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TWEETS @sridharvMirror

Since last month, the footpaths on both sides of Chiranjeevi Layout Circle, Kem-papura Barangay, near Hebbal, have been littered with cut wooden tongs, wooden sticks, and garbage mixed with leaves, posing a threat to a clean environment.

Due to heavy rains, the trees are falling on the road in this circle last month and the forest department personnel have removed the huge logs, but left behind

the waste consisting of tongs and garbage sticks. This neglect is leading to the emergence of yeasts and the potential spread of diseases.

S Sivaprasad, a BM reader said, "It is disappointing to see that the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike's health department, which is responsible for preventing the spread of dengue, is neglecting the potential outbreak of this deadly mosquito-borne disease.

The lack of response from the corporation staff to the complaints made by local citizens is highly condemnable. The prompt removal of these hazardous materials is

essential for the well-being of the local community and the preservation of a healthy living space."

Many have complained that BBMP personnel are not removing the fallen trees or branches quickly. Rajesh K, a resident said, "The monsoon season has once again revealed the glaring shortcomings in the BBMP's workstyle. Fallen trees and branches are obstructing roads and footpaths, causing traffic jams and posing severe risks to pedestrians and vehicles alike.

Residents are left to navigate around these hazardous obstacles, which have been left unattended for weeks. Moreover, the blocked pathways have hindered emergency services, delaying response times during critical situations. The stagnant water around these fallen trees has become a breeding ground for mosquitoes, exacerbating health risks such as dengue and malaria.

Despite repeated complaints and pleas for immediate action, the BBMP's response has been sluggish and inadequate. This negligence reflects poorly on the civic body's commitment to maintaining urban infrastructure and ensuring the well-being of its residents."



Pedestrians and riders are left to navigate around these obstacles at the Chiranjeevi Layout Circle

DID YOU KNOW? THERE ARE DIAMONDS IN THE ENTIRE GALAXY



Scientists believe that Neptune's and Uranus' atmospheres could produce diamonds. Hydrocarbons are found in both atmospheres, as astronomers have discovered, and when certain conditions are met, they can form the building blocks of diamonds. Astronomers have recently discovered several exoplanet candidates, worlds circling stars other than the Sun, that may be diamond-rich. About 53 light-years away from Earth, BPM 37093 is one possibility that is rich in diamonds. Astronomers were able to gauge the extent to which the star's interior has crystallized. According to the calculations, up to 90% of the star's mass is currently made up of a solid diamond core that is 2,000 miles across.

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Let's see how much you know about Namma Bengaluru, folks. Tell us something incredible and mind-boggling about this beautiful city and our editors and researchers will check it out. If it's credible, we'll give it a shout-out, with your name and picture.

TAP THE CHATTER

where Bangaloreans speak their mind

Which local food or cuisine is your go-to in Bengaluru, and where do you usually enjoy it?



Thanushree, BM Reader

Ghee Dosa at Vidyarthi Bhawan is a culinary delight that many hold dear. The dosa, crisp and golden, is generously lathered with ghee. Each bite of this delicious fare, coupled with their signature chutney, is a gastronomic experience.



Mahalinga D, BM Reader

Masala Dosa at Krishna Kuteera in Doddakammanahalli. As you take your first bite, the crisp exterior of the dosa gives way to a flavorful filling of spiced potatoes. The accompanying chutney and sambar add a burst of flavours.



Rohan Denson, BM Reader

Mushroom Fried Rice and Mushroom Manchuria are my absolute favourites from Hulimahu Shree Sai Hotel. The experience of savouring these mushroom dishes is something I look forward to, as part of my culinary adventures.



Jimmy Abraham, BM Reader

Mutton Biryani from Gowdru Mane Hotel in Bidadi is my absolute favourite. The unique blend of flavours and the tender mutton pieces make it a culinary delight. The aroma of the biryani is rich and inviting.



Punith Pumar, BM Reader

Church Street is my go-to place for Chinese cuisine. The food is a delightful mix of flavors and textures, and the aroma is irresistible. The welcoming atmosphere, along with delicious food, makes every visit worthwhile.



Sharvari P, BM Reader

One of my go-to dishes is the traditional South Indian breakfast of Masala Dosa, which I usually enjoy at MTR (Mavalli Tiffin Room) on Lalbagh Road. The dosa here is crispy and flavorful, served with a variety of chutneys and sambar.

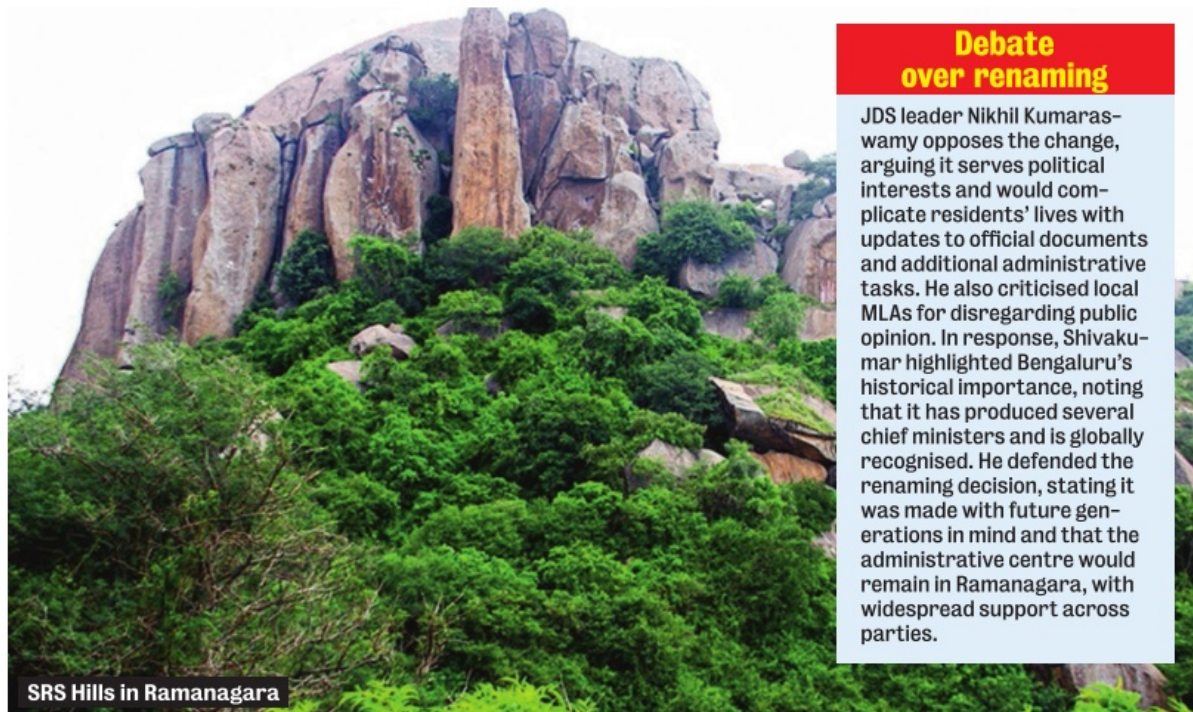
SPEAK TO US

What specific neighbourhood or area in Bengaluru do you consider your favourite, and why?

If you want to be featured in this section, mail us your answer to this question, in 25 words, with 'Tap The Chatter' in the subject line. Mail us with your name, occupation & a picture at WhatsApp us on 9591233247 or mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com

B'luru South District will not be renamed: DyCM

Deputy CM DK Shivakumar asserts Congress will retain power in 2028, ensures Ramanagara city remains the headquarters amid name-change debate



SRS Hills in Ramanagara

Debate over renaming

JDS leader Nikhil Kumaraswamy opposes the change, arguing it serves political interests and would complicate residents' lives with updates to official documents and additional administrative tasks. He also criticised local MLAs for disregarding public opinion. In response, Shivakumar highlighted Bengaluru's historical importance, noting that it has produced several chief ministers and is globally recognised. He defended the renaming decision, stating it was made with future generations in mind and that the administrative centre would remain in Ramanagara, with widespread support across parties.

Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister (DyCM) said on Saturday that it is not in the fate of Union Minister for Heavy Industries and Steel, Kumaraswamy, to rename Bengaluru South District and added that its headquarters would be Ramanagara city.

He said this in response to HD Kumaraswamy's recent statement that he would rename Bengaluru South District as Ramanagara again in 2028.

Speaking to reporters on Saturday in Bengaluru, DyCM Shivakumar stated, "It is not in his fate to change the name of Bengaluru South to Ramanagara again. In 2028, the Congress party will be in power in the state. I am giving my word, you keep a record of my statement."

Shivakumar explained, "We are not touching the name of Ramanagara. The headquarters of Bengaluru South district will be Ramanagara city. This is our dis-

All people, irrespective of the political party they belong to, are happy with the renaming of the district to Bengaluru South district

—DK Shivakumar, Deputy CM, Karnataka

trict. The people of Ramanagara, Channarayana, Kanakapura, and Magadi are our people."

"I was a Zilla Panchayat member of Bengaluru. Kumaraswamy and HD Deve Gowda came here from Hassan District. When Bengaluru was divided, it got a different name. It is a divisional headquarters, but it is in Bengaluru District, why should we lose the name?" Shivakumar asked.

"It is the region that produced five to six Chief Ministers for Karnataka. To pursue their political career, Kumaraswamy and Deve Gowda have come here, that's all. They came and went on to become CM and PM.

"All people, irrespective of the political party they belong to, are happy with the renaming of the district to Bengaluru South district," Shivakumar stated.

"The whole world is looking at Bengaluru. Look at what former PM Atal Bihari Vajpayee stated about Bengaluru. I don't want to lose that. Bengaluru is a global city and why should we not make use of the brand?"

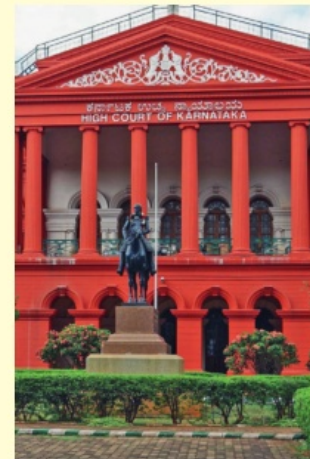
"The name, Bengaluru, was chosen by our ancestors and why should we let it go? The headquarters of the Bengaluru South district will be Ramanagara city. It is being done in the interest of the people. We are thinking about future generations," Shivakumar stated. —IANS

HC protects senior teachers from transfers

The Karnataka High Court has ruled that female teachers aged over 50 and male teachers above 55 are exempt from being considered 'excess teachers' during the process of rationalisation and redeployment in other schools.

This decision enforces Section 10(1)(vi) of the Karnataka State Civil Services (Regulation of Transfer of Teachers) Act, 2020, which mandates that authorities must honour this provision. The court's decision came while dismissing the appeals filed by the Department of School Education, which had challenged the Karnataka State Administrative Tribunal's orders. These orders had quashed the transfer of two teachers, Umadevi Hundarkar and Prabhavati Ronad, from their high schools in the Bagalkot district on the grounds of being 'excess teachers'.

A division bench comprising Chief Justice NV Anjaria and Justice SG Pandit emphasised that such beneficial provisions must be implemented in favour of eligible teachers, regardless of whether they have specifically requested it. The bench high-



lighted that this statutory provision grants a right to the teachers to be protected under the Act. The court also noted that the two teachers should not have been classified as excess and transferred, especially after they highlighted the relevant Act provisions.

Upholding the tribunal's decision, the court underscored that age-based exemptions are a long-established practice and that the authorities should have considered the teachers' valid and timely representations. —PTI

K-RIDE issues tender for Corridor 1A

Within a week of inviting tenders for Corridor 4 (including Corridors 4A and 4B), K-RIDE, the agency managing the Bengaluru Suburban Rail Project, has issued a tender for Corridor 1A. This segment connects KSR Bengaluru City to Yelahanka, with an estimated value of Rs 1,422 crores (excluding GST).

The official stated, "Corridor 1, also known as the Sampige line, is the Airport Corridor of the project, linking KSR Bengaluru to Devanahalli and BIAL Airport.

The 41 km corridor is split into two packages: C1A, from Bengaluru City to Yelahanka (18 km), and C1B, from Yelahanka to Devanahalli (approximately 23 km). The tender includes designing and constructing a 14.5 km elevated viaduct, 3.5 km at-grade formation, seven-station buildings, one road over-bridge, and associated works. The deadline for submission is October 9, 2024. Tenders for Corridor 2 and Corridor 4 have been awarded to M/s Larsen & Toubro." —BMB

Number of startups rises; K'taka 2nd in country with 15,019

The number of startups in India has increased to more than 1.4 lakh, highlighted Union Minister of State for Commerce and Industry, Jitin Prasada, in Rajya Sabha.

According to a written response by the minister in the house on Friday, the number of Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) recognised startups State/UT-wise has shown that Maharashtra tops the list with 25,044 registered startups.

Karnataka is second with 15,019 registered startups, followed by Delhi with 14,734 startups. Uttar Pradesh has secured fourth place with 13,299 startups, while Gujarat is in fifth place with 11,436 startups.

The minister also informed that

the government has undertaken various efforts to promote and support startups in the country.

He stated that the government, to build a strong ecosystem for nurturing innovation, and startups, and encouraging investments in the startup ecosystem of the country, launched the Startup India initiative on January 16, 2016.

The minister also added that the 'Startup India Action Plan' comprises 19 action items spanning across areas such as "Simplification and handholding," "Funding support and incentives," and "Industry-academia partnership and incubation." The Action Plan laid the foundation of government support, schemes, and incentives envisaged to create a vibrant startup



ecosystem in the country.

The other scheme, 'Startup India: The Way Ahead,' includes actionable plans for the promotion of ease of doing business for startups, a greater role of technology in executing vari-

ous reforms, building capacities of stakeholders, and enabling a digital Aatmanirbhar Bharat.

The government has also established a Fund of Funds for Startups (FFS) with a corpus of Rs 10,000 crore

to meet the funding needs of startups. DPIIT is the monitoring agency and the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) is the operating agency for FFS.

The total corpus of Rs 10,000 crore is envisaged to be provided over the 14th and 15th Finance Commission cycles based on the progress of the scheme and the availability of funds.

The minister stated that the government has not only made capital available for startups at the early stage, seed stage, and growth stage but also played a catalytic role in terms of facilitating the raising of domestic capital, reducing dependence on foreign capital, and encouraging home-grown and new venture capital funds. —ANI



Climate of wrangling

Inside the political struggle at IPCC that will determine the next six years of climate science

The UN's climate science advisory group, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), is currently meeting in Bulgaria to decide on a timeline for its next "cycle" of reports over the rest of this decade. That decision should have been taken in January, but government divisions arose over aligning IPCC outputs with UN climate negotiations, at a meeting that the IPCC chair described as "one of the most intense" he had experienced.

Political struggle over the final

wording of IPCC reports is well known, but this division at the start of the process reflects the organisation's achievements. The more successful it becomes in disseminating climate knowledge, the more deeply imbued in climate politics it becomes.

I have studied the IPCC for 15 years and think these political factors are often overlooked. For instance, though the reports are written by scientists, governments play an integral role throughout the process. The IPCC is after all an intergovernmental body – it's governments that decide to produce the reports and give the final approval, not scientists.

Most notably, this involves the final line-by-line approval of a report's key findings in the "summary for policymakers" (the only bit most people

read). Media reporting and accounts by IPCC authors frequently reveal the extent of negotiation over how the latest knowledge of climate change is presented to the public. This has led to whole sections being deleted and open conflict between scientists and government delegates.

However, decisions made at the start of an assessment cycle are equally fraught with politics. These include electing the bureau and approving the report outline. The politics sometimes come to light, as it did when Wikileaks revealed US manoeuvring to secure the election of the US co-chair candidate for a previous round of reports which were published in 2013 and 2014.

These struggles indicate the impact that IPCC reports can have on official UN climate negotiations, where its reports provide the knowledge base to inform a collective response.

Climate negotiations are characterised by major divisions between developed and developing countries and these same political issues have shaped the IPCC too. For developing countries, climate change has never been a purely scientific issue. It is a question of development, and participation in the IPCC reflects levels of economic development.



For developing countries, climate change has never been a purely scientific issue. It is a question of development, and participation in the IPCC reflects levels of economic development

Decisions made at the start of an assessment cycle such as approving the report outline are fraught with politics

Economic resources and long-term investment are required to produce the sort of globally-recognised climate research that leads to a country becoming an influential member of the IPCC.

Although the IPCC funds the travel of some developing country authors and one government representative, developing countries remain dramatically underrepresented. At the same time, the IPCC's reports and global climate policymaking dramatically shape how a country can develop in future.

IPCC reports can also support the goals of climate negotiators and accelerate climate action. This was evident in the IPCC's special report on 1.5°C, which made world headlines when it was published in 2018, and which had challenged scientists to investigate a lower temperature target than the 2°C they had been working with.

The report legitimised the lower temperature goal and applied further pressure on governments to decarbonise faster. Concerned that their collective approval of the IPCC report would signal official endorsement of the 1.5°C goal, the US, Saudi Arabia, Russia and Kuwait prevented official recognition of the report at COP24 in Poland later that year.

A direct input into negotiations

The political stakes have also been raised by the IPCC being specified as a source of the "best available science" for the global stocktake as part of the Paris agreement. The global stocktake, first completed at COP28 in Dubai in 2023, is the mechanism to assess progress on climate change and increase ambition as necessary.

Serving as a direct input into the negotiations increased the political wrangling over every word in the approval of the IPCC reports' summary for policymakers. This was particularly the case for the report on mitigation, where the approval meeting ran over by two days and was branded as the longest session in the IPCC's history. The summary for policymakers grew substantially through government attempts to elaborate and re-word the report's key findings.

As co-chair of the mitigation working group, it was Professor Jim Skea that chaired most of this approval session. This is a man that knows intense meetings. This makes his comment over his experience at the IPCC meeting in January (which he also chaired) particularly noteworthy.

The success of the IPCC's previous assessment cycle (its sixth) is already marking the seventh. At the current meeting in Bulgaria, which runs until August 2, governments need to decide a timeline for the seventh assessment cycle – its next major round of reports. The reports will need to be completed by 2028 at the latest to inform the second global stocktake.

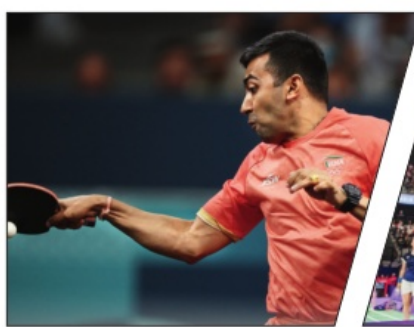
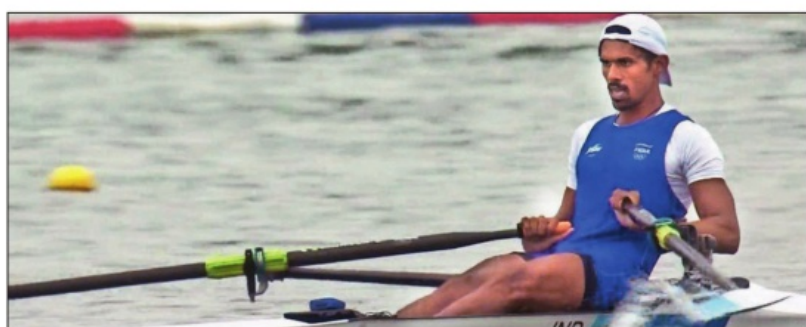
If the timeline is delayed, and the seventh assessment cycle does not inform the international response to climate change and increase collective ambition, what is its purpose? Establishing this in Bulgaria will be central to determining the success of the IPCC in future.

(By Hannah Hughes, Aberystwyth University, *The Conversation*)



Opening Ceremony

Clockwise: Indian athletes wave their national flags from a boat on the Seine River in Paris, France, during the opening ceremony; Acrobats perform during the opening ceremony for the Olympics in Paris, France; India's Lakshya Sen during the Men's Singles Group stage badminton match against Kevin Cordón; Harmeet Desai of India in action with Zaid Abu Yaman of Jordan during their preliminary round match; Indian rower Balraj Panwar finishes in the fourth place in the Men's Single Sculls event during the Paris Olympics



Manu shines for India, China strikes gold

Bhaker made her Olympic final debut in Women's 10m Air Pistol



Manu Bhaker brightened the Indian shooting team's Day One at the Paris 2024 Olympics by qualifying for the final of the Women's 10m Air Pistol event at the French National Shooting Centre range in Chateauroux. Manu's qualifying score of 580 earned her third place out of 44 com-

petitors, with the top eight, including leader Veronika Major (582) from Hungary, advancing to the final on Sunday. This will be Manu's first Olympic final. Manu shot consistently well throughout the 60-shot qualification,

staying above the cut line for the entire length. Compatriot Rhythm Sangwan shot 573 to finish 15th and missed out by four points.

Earlier, both Indian pairs in the fray in the 10m Air Rifle Mixed Team event, the first medal event of the Games, could not cross the qualification hurdle. Ramita and Arjun Babuta fought hard to shoot 628.7 and finish sixth in the 28-team field, as the top four scores made it to the gold and bronze medal matches. Olympian Elavenil Valarivan and Sandeep Singh, the second Indian pair in the field, shot 626.3 to finish 12th.

Sarabjot Singh in the 10m Air Pistol Men, missed making the medal round, tallying the same score of 577 with two others. Sheng Liah and Huang Yuting beat Korea's Park Ha-Jun and Keum Ji-Hyeon 16-12 in the decider to claim the Paris Olympics' first gold medal.

SPORTS PERSONS FROM KARNATAKA

1 Srihari Nataraj - 100m Men's Freestyle Swimming

2 Rohan Bopanna - Tennis Doubles

3 Nishant Dev - Men's 71 kgs Boxing

4 Mijo Chacko - Mixed Relay

5 MR Poovamma - Mixed Relay

6 Archana Kamath - Table Tennis

7 Ashwini Ponnappa - Women's Doubles Badminton

8 Aditi Ashok - Women's Golf

9 Dhinidhi Desingoo - Women's Freestyle Swimming



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Minor punishment for major offence

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

equipment, or machinery used in these cases were not confiscated.

The report says that these cases show the lenient view taken by the department in cases of attempts to encroach on forest land. Similarly, in Koppa Range, a case was booked for illegally felling 873 Acacia trees. Following this, the Karnataka State Forest Industries Corporation (KSFIC) was entrusted with the extraction work of 415 trees on five hectares of acacia plantation.

KSFIC further entrusted this work to a contractor. However, the contractor illegally felled another 535 Acacia trees on a government plantation and 338 Acacia trees on a private plantation. This case was disposed of by levying and recovering a compounding fee of ₹50,000.

CAG has further highlighted that no reply was furnished by the department or the state gov-

ernment for the small compounding fee levied in the case of illegal felling of timber when compared to the gravity of the offences and on not confiscating the tools, equipment, and vehicles used in committing the offences.

Experts highlight that as per the Karnataka Forest Act, only simple and clear cases should be compounded. Complicated cases involving large sums of money or indicating a clear intention to do damage should be prosecuted. Leniency in awarding punishment would not be a deterrent to offenders in the future.

"As per the Act, the composition fee levied shall be for the actual criminality of the act and exclusive of the value of forest produce involved or the amount of damage caused in the case.

The forest produce involved in the offence and the vehicles, tools, implements, etc., used by the offender to commit the offence should at once be

seized. The department must deal with forest offence cases strictly," said a city-based conservationist.

Other observations

The report also states that the disposal of forest offence cases has been very low and in many cases, first-level follow-up action has also been pending.

For instance, while 2,541 cases were registered between 2017-18 and 2021-22 in 11 selected divisions, about 57 percent of the cases were pending prompt first-level follow-up action such as filing inquiry reports and charge sheets by the departmental officers.

Similarly, no action was taken by the department in many cases of forest encroachment. As per an action plan filed by the Government of Karnataka before the Karnataka High Court, while over 22,000 acres of forest lands were to be evicted by June 2016, it continues to be under encroachment.

Speedsters will be taught good lesson on their limits

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the registration of FIRs, which is a harsher action." A senior police official said they are using advanced technologies like speed cameras to stop reckless driving. "Increasing public awareness through educational campaigns about the dangers of speeding and promoting safe driving habits are crucial.

Implementing stricter penalties for violations and improving road design to include speed bumps and clearer signage can also contribute significantly to safer driving. Collaboration between law enforcement, local governments, and community organisations is essential in creating a culture of road safety and ensuring adherence to speed limits, ultimately protecting lives and reducing accidents."

Meanwhile, to prevent road accidents and fatalities, the police department is intensifying efforts to enforce traffic rules more strictly. Recently, cases have been registered against vehicles with LED lights that emit intense beams causing eye strain.

A senior police official said, "The aim is

to prevent road accidents, with special operations targeting vehicles with LED lights. Bengaluru, Mangaluru, Hubballi-Dharwad, Mysuru, and most districts have already registered a significant number of cases, which is commendable.

Similar operations will also focus on vehicles driving in the wrong direction and on footpaths. Additionally, a statewide special operation will commence on August 1 against vehicles with faulty number plates."

The official said driving in the wrong direction on national highways is also dangerous and potentially life-threatening.

"I have instructed the police to take action against such drivers. In urban areas like Bengaluru, it is common to see two-wheelers being driven on footpaths. Strict action will be taken against these offenders.

Before enforcing the rules, public awareness will be raised through social media, pamphlets, and loudspeakers. Following this, a special operation will be conducted starting August 1, with a report to be submitted by the end of the month," the official said.

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personal

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L, Sachith Reddy S/o Santhosh Reddy, R/ @ #171, S F S 208, Lakhen Park View apts, 4th Main, Yelahanka New Town, B'luru-560064 have changed my name to Sachith S Reddy for all purposes.

L, Rahul S/o Anant Shetti R/o #48 Opp Maruti temple Rajivgandhi Nagar Laggere B'luru-560058 have changed my name to Rahul A Shetti for all purposes.

I Basheera Begum Mohamed Iqbal w/o Mohamed Iqbal 26/2 KGHalli Blr-45 have changed my name to Basheera Begum for all purposes.



MIND, BODY & HEART



All you need to know about...

Type-1 diabetes

Through father

A team of scientists has revealed that a child is almost twice as likely to develop type 1 diabetes if the father has the condition than the mother.

The study, the largest of its kind and published in the journal *Diabetologia*, suggests that exposure to type 1 diabetes in the womb confers long-term protection against the condition in children with affected mothers relative to those with affected fathers.

Family history

Understanding what is responsible for this relative protection could lead to opportunities to develop new treatments to prevent type 1 diabetes, said researchers. "Individuals with a family history of type 1 diabetes are 8-15 times more likely to develop the autoimmune condition - however, studies have shown the risk is higher if the affected relative is the father rather than the mother. We wanted to understand this more," said lead researcher Dr Lowri Allen from Cardiff University in the UK.

Protection

Previous studies have suggested that maternal type 1 diabetes is associated with relative protection against type 1 diabetes in offspring during early life.

"Taken together, our findings suggest the relative protection associated with having a mother versus father with type 1 diabetes is a long-term effect that extends into adult life," said Allen.

However, the timing of the parent's diagnosis was important. An individual was only more likely to have a father, rather than a mother, with type 1 diabetes, if the parent was diagnosed before the individual was born. In other words, having a mother with type 1 diabetes only appears to provide a child with protection against the condition (relative to having a father with type 1 diabetes) if the mother has the condition during pregnancy, the findings showed.

—IANS



MONSOON SPECIAL

Heart-warming dishes that can make rainy afternoons even more delicious



JALEBI

INGREDIENTS

- 1 cup refined flour (maida) • 1/2 cup yogurt
- 3 cups sugar • 1 tablespoon milk
- A few strands of saffron (kesar)
- Ghee for deep-frying

METHOD

Prepare the Batter:

- In a large bowl, whisk together the refined flour, yogurt, and sufficient water to achieve a smooth, pouring consistency.
- Cover the bowl and keep it in a warm place to ferment for 24 hours.

Prepare the Sugar Syrup:

- After 24 hours, beat the batter with your hands for 15 minutes. In a deep non-stick pan, cook the sugar with 2 cups of water over high heat, stirring continuously until the sugar dissolves.
- Add the milk. When the scum rises to the top, collect it with a ladle and discard it.
- Add saffron strands and continue to cook, stirring, until the syrup reaches a one-string consistency. Keep the syrup warm.

Fry the Jalebis:

- Heat sufficient ghee in a kadai over medium heat. Pour some batter onto a jalebi cloth, gather the edges, and make a tight potli (bundle). Squeeze round spirals of batter into the hot ghee and deep fry, turning them over gently a few times, until they are evenly golden and crisp.

Soak in Syrup:

- Drain the fried jalebis and soak them in the warm sugar syrup for 2-3 minutes.
- Remove from the syrup and serve hot.



MALPUA

INGREDIENTS

- 100 gm maida (all-purpose flour)
- 500 gm wheat flour • 1 teaspoon green cardamom powder • 1 cup ghee • 250 gm sugar
- 1 pinch saffron • 500 ml milk • 2 tablespoons chopped pistachios • 250 ml water • 50 gm khoya
- 1 teaspoon rose water

METHOD

Prepare Sugar Syrup:

- In a pan over medium flame, add water and sugar. Stir until the sugar is completely dissolved.
- Allow the syrup to cool, then set aside.

Prepare Malpua Batter:

- In a mixing bowl, combine maida, wheat flour, khoya, cardamom powder, and milk. Mix well until the batter reaches a pouring consistency (not too thick).

Cook Malpua:

- Heat ghee in a pan over low flame.
- Pour a ladleful of the batter into the pan and spread it evenly. Cook on low flame until the Malpua is light brown on both sides.
- Remove the cooked Malpua and drain the excess ghee.

Soak in Sugar Syrup:

- Dip the cooked Malpua into the prepared sugar syrup and allow it to soak for 2-3 minutes. Repeat the process with the remaining batter.

Garnish and Serve:

- Drain the Malpuas from the syrup and garnish with chopped pistachios, rose petals, and Kesar rabdi. Serve hot.
- Enjoy your delicious Malpua with rabdi!



DAL BAATI CHURMA RECIPE

INGREDIENTS

For Dal:

- 200 grams Green Moong Dal
- 50 grams Chana Dal
- 1 tbsp. chopped Garlic
- 1 medium finely chopped Onion
- 1 medium-sized finely chopped Tomato
- 1 tbsp. Chilli Powder
- 1 tsp Coriander Powder
- 1/2 tsp. Turmeric Powder
- 1/2 tsp. Garam Masala Powder
- 2 tbsp. finely chopped Coriander Leaves
- Salt to taste

To Temper:

- 1 tbsp. Ghee • 1/2 tsp. Cloves
- 3 pcs Bay Leaf • 2 tsp Cumin Seeds
- 1 tbsp. chopped Green Chilli
- 1 pinch Asafoetida (Hing) Powder

For Baati:

- 2 cups Whole Wheat Flour
- 1/2 cup Melted Ghee • 1/4 tsp Ajwain
- Salt to taste

For Churma:

- 1 cup Whole Wheat Flour
- 4 tsp Melted Ghee
- 2 tbsp. Almond Slivers
- 1/4 tsp. Cardamom Powder
- 4 tbsp. Powdered Sugar
- Melted Ghee - for deep frying

For Serving:

- Lemon • Chopped Raw Onion

METHOD

- Rinse the dals well and pressure cook for 5 whistles along with a pinch of turmeric powder, salt, and 1 liter of water. Once the pressure releases, mash it well with a ladle and set aside.
- In a pan, heat ghee and add the items listed under 'to temper'.
- Add chopped onion and garlic, and sauté until the onions turn transparent. Then add tomatoes along with red chilli, turmeric, coriander, and garam masala powders, and salt (adjust as needed since salt was already added in the dal). Sauté for a few minutes.
- Now add the mashed dal and mix well. Let the dal boil for 5 minutes, adding a little water if it's too thick. Finally, garnish with coriander leaves and switch off the heat.

Baati Preparation:

- In a mixing bowl, take all the ingredients listed under 'for baati', mix well, and knead together to form a stiff dough. Divide the dough into small balls.
- Heat ghee in a pan to 180 degrees Celsius and cook the baati until they turn golden.

Churma Preparation:

- In a mixing bowl, take wheat flour and ghee; add water to form a stiff dough. Make patties with your palms with an indentation at the center.
- Heat ghee and deep fry the patties in hot oil until golden brown. Turn-over and cook evenly on a low-medium flame. Drain on tissue paper and set aside to cool down.
- Once completely cool, break them into small pieces and grind them using a mixer. Grind to a coarse texture in batches. Collect the mixture in a bowl, add powdered sugar and cardamom powder, and mix well.
- Chop almonds lengthwise, add them along with ghee, and give a quick mix.
- Serving Suggestion: Heat the dal again until piping hot. Break the baati and place it on a serving plate, pour dal over it, drizzle ghee, and sprinkle chopped onions. Add lemon juice and serve with churma. Enjoy it by soaking it for a while to fully appreciate the flavors.

LOVE & SACRIFICE

Ranbir Kapoor discusses realities of marriage and adjustments required

Alia Bhatt and Ranbir Kapoor tied the knot on April 14, 2022, after dating for a few years. They held an intimate ceremony at their Mumbai residence for family and close friends.

In a recent conversation with Nikhil Kamath on his podcast, Ranbir Kapoor discussed the realities of marriage and the adjustments it requires. He reflected on the necessity of compromise, stating that both partners often have to let go of certain aspects of their individual personalities.

The 'Animal' actor noted that she (Alia) is also letting go of her personality.

Ranbir explained that in any marriage, adjustments and sacrifices are essential for mutual happiness. He emphasized that it's unrealistic to expect both people to remain exactly as they are, highlighting the importance of making each other's lives more comfortable through compromise.

When asked about Alia Bhatt as a person, Ranbir described Alia as a wonderful person with a vibrant personality, noting that she is 11 years younger than him. He shared that he first met Alia when she was just 9 years old and he was 20 or 21, during a photo shoot for a movie project that Sanjay Leela Bhansali wanted to make called Balika Vadhu. At that time, Ranbir was assisting Bhansali on 'Black'. He reflected on how it feels a bit strange now, but he has always respected Alia deeply, both as an actor and as a person. He mentioned that over the years, he has come to admire her even more and values their time together, enjoying their holidays and the moments spent at home.

ETimes



Opulent style

The fashion spectacle at India Couture Week 2024 is in full swing. After two days of power-packed fashion shows, Day 3 also offered the finest of style. Bollywood diva Malaika Arora and actor Rahul Khanna turned showstoppers for ace designer Siddhartha Tytler.

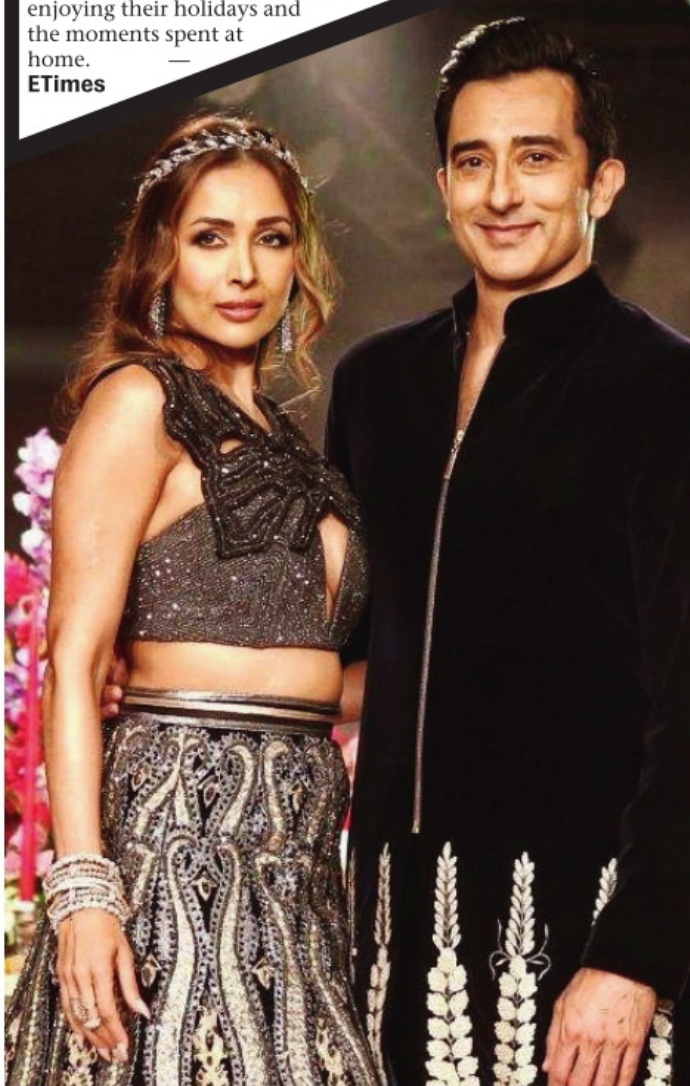
The dashing duo garnered attention with their glamorous outfit created by Siddhartha. Malaika raised the bar with a stunning black embroidered glittering lehenga.

Rahul Khanna complemented her with a dazzling black embroidered outfit. He wore a bandhgala sherwani with golden floral motifs at the bottom of it and completed his look with black shoes that went perfectly with his attire. As per a statement, Siddhartha's latest collection, Caligula's Feast, was inspired by the tyrannical Roman emperor, Caligula. The collection "embodies self-indulgence, extravagance, and opulence."

As a designer, Tytler finds beauty and inspiration in the dark and macabre aspects of nature and humanity, and this collection is a testament to Caligula's madness and grandeur of a bygone era.

"I don't believe in the ordinary. Sensuality, darkness and bold desire fuel my creativity. Enter 'Caligula's Feast', inspired by the worst Roman Emperor Caligula, showcasing a wild blend of self-indulgence, extravagance, and opulence, all drenched in richness and debauchery," explained Siddhartha.

—ETimes



Drugs, suspense and violence



RAKTHAKSHA

3.0 RATING ★★★★★

• **DIRECTOR** Vasudeva SN
• **ACTORS** Rohith, Pramod Shetty, Archana Kottige, Roopa Rayappa, Rachana Dasarath, and Gurudev
• **CERTIFICATION** U/A
• **Duration** 118 minutes

Though the plot of the movie is pretty old, the way it has been handled by the director deserves praise.

Director Vasudeva SN has tried to make Rakthaksha a different kind of movie by including elements such as action, romance, and item songs aimed to entertain the audiences.

The movie is about three girls Riya, Saida, and Shiny aka Shine getting killed mysteriously one by one. The killer disposes of the bodies without leaving any clue to the police. The murders become a challenge for the police department and Gautam Chahal (Gurudev Nagaraj), a police inspector, along with a police constable, tries to nab the killer.

At this time, Gautam Chahal meets Rohith aka Rakthaksha (Rohith) and arrests him along with his lover Rashmi. During the interrogation, Rohith confesses to the police inspector about his involvement in killing the three women. Why Rohith killed the three and what those women had done to him, what character

Pramod Shetty played, and who is Viper are the aspects you can discover in the movie.

The minus points of the movie are too many scenes of cigarette smoking, violence, and lack of comedy to break the monotony.

As far as the performances of the actors are concerned, Rohith is good in action sequences. Gurudev Nagaraj, as a police officer who is ready to go to any extent to keep his mistress happy, is convincing. Pramod Shetty, Archana Kottige, Roopa Rayappa, and Rachana Dasarath provide good support.

Among the songs, Arrest Me Baby is good. It is sung by Supriya Ram and music is by Dossmode aka Dheerendra Doss.

It is worth a watch, but only if you love a good dose of action.

—Y Maheswara Reddy

Kriti spoke about love

For all her professional achievements, Kriti Sanon's love life is shrouded in mystery, with the actress never acknowledging who she is dating at any point. For several months now, rumors have been rife that the Mimi actress has been dating Kabir Bahia, who is based in the UK. However, there has been no confirmation on the same.

In an old interview with Vogue India, the actress opened up her idea of love and what it entails.

She said, "Hopefully, I will also be waking up to sunlight, cuddles from my puppies—and perhaps even someone special. Something as insignificant as carrying a jacket while going to the movies in case I feel cold or thoughtfully ordering food when I come back home after working late can make a relationship feel so meaningful."

Kriti, who turns a year older on Saturday, has taken off to London for a celebratory getaway with her

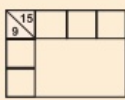


sister Nupur. The actress, who has been riding high on the success of her recent films Teri Baaton Mein Aisa Uljha Jiya and Crew, took to Instagram to share a glimpse of her outing, hinting that her birthday will be marked in the UK.

—ETimes

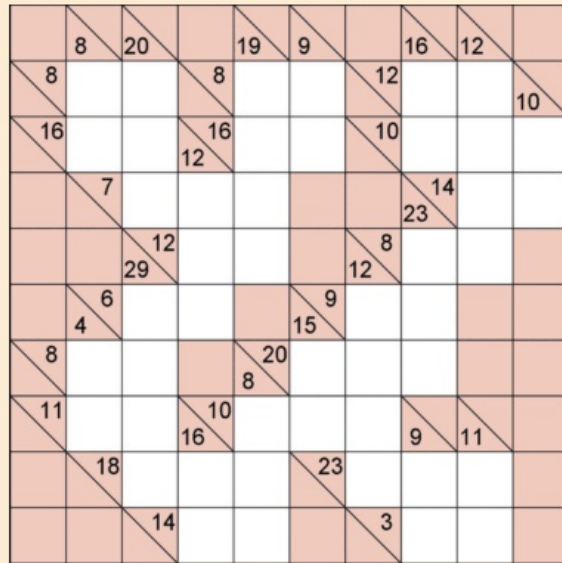
Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas

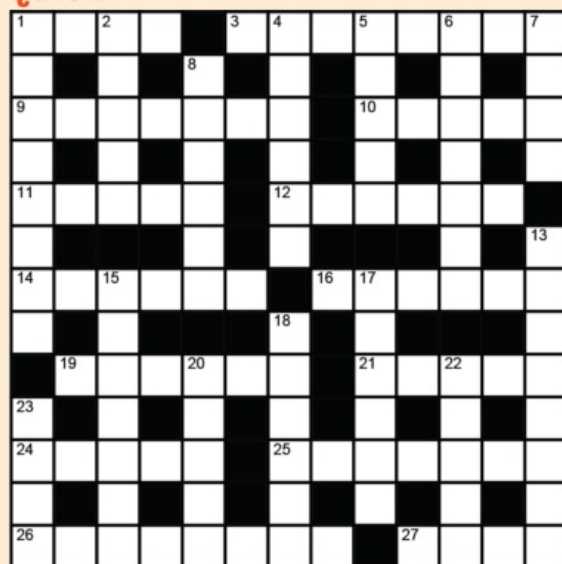


for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

- 1 Alright (4)
- 3 Government building that offers a view of Ulsoor Lake on one side and the Bangalore Race Course on the other (4,4)
- 9 Small armed ship (7)
- 10 Iliad, Mahabharat, et al.? (5)
- 11 Linkage or connection (5)
- 12 Annul, revoke (6)
- 14 Cutlasses, rapiers, etc (6)
- 16 Thin coating (6)
- 19 Olympic prizes? (6)
- 21 Great Asian river (5)
- 24 Recumbent (5)
- 25 Skyline (7)
- 26 Frozen dessert (3,5)
- 27 Norse god (4)

DOWN

- 1 Church musician (8)
- 2 Attach; expropriate (5)
- 4 Makes changes (6)
- 5 ___ on : in a superior position to (3,2)
- 6 Give life to (7)
- 7 Misplaced (4)
- 8 Threw into the air (6)
- 13 Ramesh or Ramnathan of Indian tennis (8)
- 15 Single occasion (3,4)
- 17 A political exile—"regime" anagram? (6)
- 18 Respiratory disorder (6)
- 20 Great rage (5)
- 22 Napped (5)
- 23 161 in the old Roman figuration (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: R EQUALS G
YKIMBEG BI EF JZMMKH FW
SAZESK. BM BI Z JZMMKH FW
SAFBSK. BM BI EFM Z MABER
MF QK UZBMKY WFH, BM BI Z
MABER MF QK ZSABKLY.



Linemaro

Have you always been this cute, or did you have to work at it?



Mindchow

If an egg is broken from the inside, life begins. Great things happen from the inside



Joke of the day

Got food poisoning from a restaurant today. I ordered the fish of the day... unfortunately it turns out the day was actually last week.

Loop

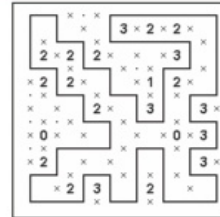
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

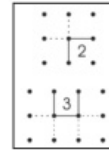
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) - Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

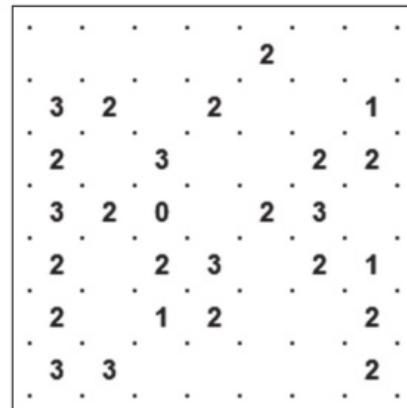
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



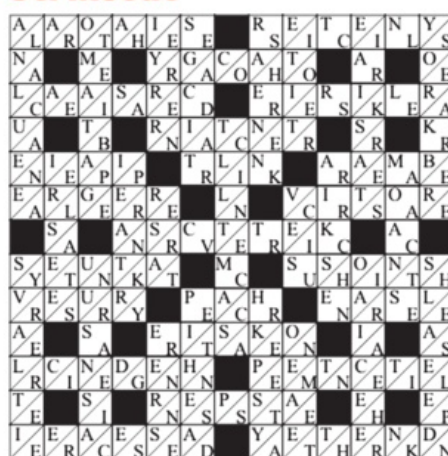
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



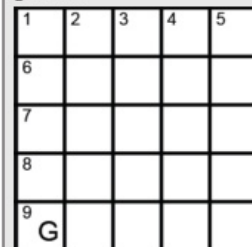
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

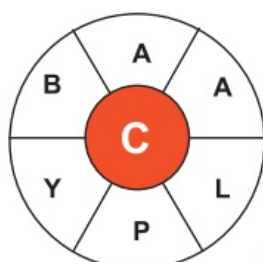
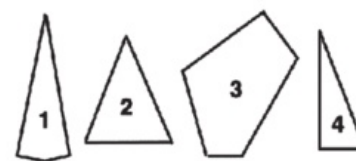
- 1 At CRT; 6 Or hum;
- 7 Samoa; 8 Sones;
- 9 Girth

DOWN

- 1 Nth go; 2 Or rum;
- 3 Masai; 4 Cotes;
- 5 Harts

Mensapuzzle

On the right are four pieces of a puzzle that will form a square when properly fitted together. Trace the figures, cut them out, and see if you can arrange them in to a square

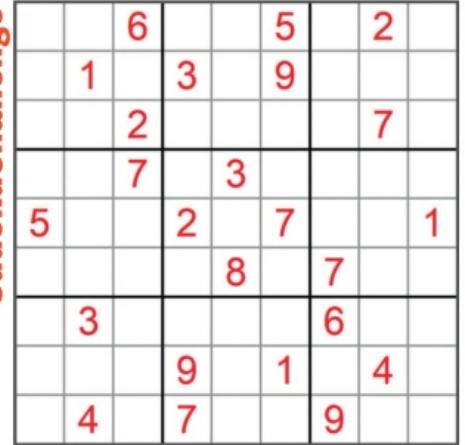


Bull's eye

How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

02 Average; 03 Good; 04 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge



To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.



Easy

□ □ □ □ = 10

2 5 6 7

Medium

□ □ □ □ = 15

6 9 9 9

Hard

□ □ □ □ = 20

2 4 7 4

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Thumb is not showing. 2. Boy is taller. 3. Back of chair is different. 4. Window sill is lower. 5. Man's shoulders are wider. 6. Man's hair is different.

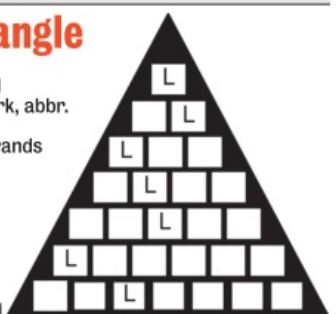
Riddler

In this teaser, you are to start with the word 'GOAL', and then each time, change a letter to make a new word. You need to continue this process until you reach the word 'POST'. You must do this in four (4) turns.

Alpha triangle

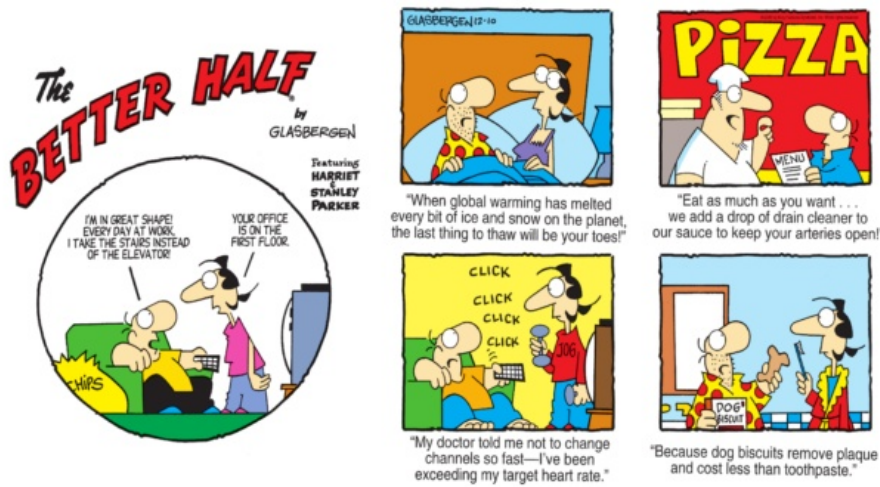
- 1 XXV + XXV
- 2 Aluminium symbol
- 3 Local Area Network, abbr.
- 4 Arm bone
- 5 Separate rope strands
- 6 Madness
- 7 Slander

Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be



made at each step answering to the clue given.

COMICS



WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 - Apr 20

Today, you may be happy and have mental peace. You are likely to be busy with friends and family. You may enjoy your domestic life, and bonding with your spouse may likely be increased. There may be a new partnership in the business. Innovations may help your business to grow.

**Leo** Jul 24 - Aug 23

Today your business plans may likely be successful with the support of your subordinates. You may have short travels in terms of business, which will give you benefits in the near future. You may be involved in social and family get-togethers, which may increase your social network.

**Sagittarius** Nov 23 - Dec 22

Today is a good day. In the business, you may get new clients, which will be helpful in the growth in terms of profits. Singles are likely to find a good match. In domestic life, you must avoid hiding anything from your spouse, it might create a gap between your relationship. Job seekers may likely get a new job, there are chances of promotions in their current job.

**Taurus** Apr 21 - May 20

Today you may begin your day with positive thinking. You may be in a winning position relative to your opponents and hidden enemies. Your work may be praised by your seniors and may get new responsibilities in terms of promotions. Students are blessed by the moon, which may show them the right path to choose good career options.

**Virgo** Aug 24 - Sep 23

Today is a good day for gains. You may make good plans to get good gains from your investments. You may likely save money by avoiding spending on unnecessary things. Love birds may be busy with family functions.

**Capricorn** Dec 23 - Jan 20

Today with the help of your strong network you may implement your business plans. You may use your wisdom to gain profits. You may also have harmony in your domestic life, there may be a good understanding between you and your spouse. Natives related to metal, booking agents will do better.

**Gemini** May 21 - Jun 21

Today, you may be busy with family issues. You may explore your extra sources of income in terms of gains. You might take an interest in artefacts, movies, and glamour which may improve your creativity. Love birds have a clear view in terms of their relationships. Students may now go ahead towards their aim in terms of career.

**Libra** Sep 24 - Oct 22

Today, you may be busy with issues related to siblings and relatives. But you may expect some support at work, which may run your work smoothly. Your network may help you to complete your task successfully. You may plan to start a new venture with the help of your siblings and network. There may be smart gains after little effort.

**Aquarius** Jan 21 - Feb 19

Today you are more religious, you may plan to visit religious places to find peace of mind. You may donate some amount to charity or a spiritual place. People around you may get help and support from you, in terms of finance or moral support. You may enjoy every moment with satisfaction and patience.

**Cancer** Jun 22 - July 23

Today, you might have many options, which could lead to confusion. You might choose to visit your elders for their advice before making any important decisions. Your past karma may show you the right path to take the right decision in terms of work and domestic life. Today, you should be attentive to your parents' health.

**Scorpio** Oct 23 - Nov 22

Today, you may have dull feelings, which may affect your health, and you may not get results from your professional meetings. You may have a feeling of a waste of time. From the late evening, disappointments may convert into happiness. You are advised to avoid rash driving or adventure tours.

**Pisces** Feb 20 - Mar 20

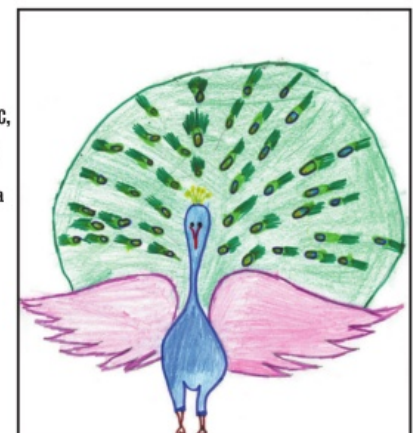
Today, you may have a dull feeling. You are advised to control your short temper. Your focus is tested many times. You should try to avoid scattering towards your goals. So it is advised not to invest in worthless stuff. Love birds are advised to avoid making arguments on worthless topics.



KIDZONE



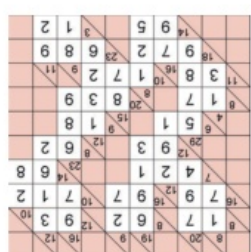
Chetana C,
6 Years,
Kendria
Vidyalaya



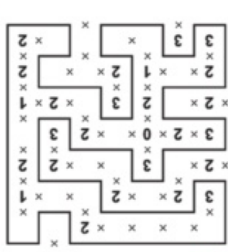
Thanushree S,
10 Years,
Maruthi
Vidyalaya

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

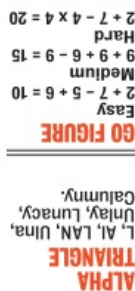
SOLUTIONS



KAKURO



LOOP



ALPHA TRIANGLE



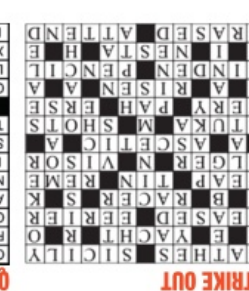
SUDOKU



MENSA PUZZLE



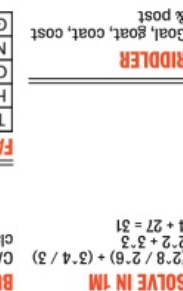
QUICK



STRIKE OUT



BULLS' EYE



RIDDLE

RENAULT KIGER

bold SUV stance



price starting at ₹5.99 lakh*



touchscreen with wireless smartphone replication



multi-sense drive modes



17.78 cm reconfigurable TFT cluster

*the above-mentioned price of ₹5 99 990 is for the base variant of the Kiger and is exclusive of all local taxes. the price/features mentioned in the advertisement may vary depending on the model/variant and features in the car. corporate / PSU / defence personnel / government employee / professional benefits applicable on each model are basis eligibility of the customer and based on submission of required proof by the customer. price valid on the date of purchase. for detailed terms and conditions, please visit www.renault.co.in

Renault recommends Castrol

renault.co.in

SHOWROOMS: KARNATAKA: BENGALURU: RENAULT BANNERGHATTA ROAD Ph: 8546820204, RENAULT MYSORE ROAD Ph: 8527240549 & 7026666922, RENAULT SILK BOARD Ph: 8527240654, RENAULT WHITEFIELD Ph: 8527240685, RENAULT JP NAGAR Ph: 8527240626 & 7353760555, RENAULT KALYAN NAGAR Ph: 8527236137 & 8722866664, RENAULT SARJAPURA Ph: 8448481374, 8746811000 & 8496915111, RENAULT YELAHANKA Ph: 8527234592, 9071767600 & 8884498993, RENAULT YESWANTHPUR Ph: 9311832962 & 9311832968. **BAGALKOT:** RENAULT BAGALKOT Ph: 8448383236, RENAULT JAMAKHANDI Ph: 9311832963. **BELLARY:** RENAULT BELLARY Ph: 9513353918, RENAULT HOSPET Ph: 8130309367. **BELGAUM:** RENAULT BELGAUM Ph: 8527236405, RENAULT CHIKODI Ph: 9311700663, RENAULT GOKAK Ph: 8130499617. RENAULT CHIKMAGALUR Ph: 9513353914. RENAULT CHITRADURGA Ph: 9311475816. RENAULT DAVANAGERE Ph: 7603868296. RENAULT HUBLI Ph: 8527236365. RENAULT HASSAN Ph: 8448481379. RENAULT HONNAVAR Ph: 8130499340. RENAULT MANDYA Ph: 8527234762. RENAULT MANGALORE Ph: 8527235768. RENAULT MYSORE Ph: 8527237512. RENAULT PUTTUR Ph: 8130499343. RENAULT RANEBENNUR Ph: 8130309302. RENAULT SHIVAMOGGA Ph: 8527240462. RENAULT SIRSI Ph: 8527235769. RENAULT TUMKUR Ph: 7353764337. RENAULT UDUPI Ph: 8527234512. RENAULT VIJAYAPURA Ph: 8527235129.